

INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF
12 October 2001

SUBJECT: FAO In-Country Training Program-Ethiopia

1. PURPOSE: To provide a summary of the FAO in-country training program and facilities available in Ethiopia to assist in selection and preparation of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to contact incumbent trainees and/or FAO supervisor as early as possible for more detailed information.

2. FACTS:

a. Summary of Program:

(1) Tour Length - Approximately 12 months.

(2) Normal Arrival/Departure Dates - January through January of following year.

(3) Program Description - One FAO per year conducts ICT in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. FAO is assigned to the USDAO, U.S. Embassy, Ethiopia, where the FAO interns under the supervision of the DATT and conducts in-country/regional study and travel. Because Ethiopia is not a Francophone country, the FAO must pursue an aggressive program of self-directed French language study.

(4) Prerequisites - CPT/MAJ, French language 2/2/2, CA/CS branch.

(5) Language Instruction Availability: There is an Amharic Tutor available at the embassy. French language training is available through the local Alliance Francaise.

b. Property:

(1) Government:

(a) Vehicle: The FAO vehicle is a 1991 Toyota Land Cruiser.

(b) Furniture. The FAO residence comes fully furnished, to include major appliances. Families with babies/toddlers should bring crib and/or other children's furniture.

(c) Office equipment: None at this time. The FAO has access to DAO computers, phone and fax. The FAO should bring his/her own computer. Office equipment in Ethiopia is expensive so the FAO should purchase everything while still in the States.

(2) Personal:

(a) POV: FAOs are authorized shipment of one POV and this is recommended. Normal shipment time is three months, so ship early. 4WD/AWD vehicles are highly recommended but not required. Be aware that Ethiopian Customs Authority will not release the POV to the FAO until the FAO is physically in country and the embassy (GSO) obtains a duty-free card. This process can take up to six weeks following arrival in country. Purchasing a vehicle, new or used, in country is also an option but can be very expensive. Area dealerships include Toyota, Suzuki, Peugeot, and Renault. There is no unleaded gas available in Ethiopia, so the FAO will have to arrange for the removal of the catalytic converter from a POV prior to shipment. Ensure the catalytic converter remains with the vehicle so that it can be reinstalled upon the vehicle's return to the US. Contact the Defense Attaché Office prior to shipment for further guidance. USAA does not insure vehicles in Ethiopia, but the Embassy GSO will arrange for local coverage (very inexpensive).

(b) Household Goods: FAOs are authorized partial JFTR. Since most furnishings and major appliances are provided, the FAO should bring only personal items, clothing, decorative items such as wall hangings, kitchen and gardening supplies, and entertainment items such as computers, stereos, and televisions. FAOs with small children or infants should bring enough clothing, pampers, and food items to cover at least two weeks. The incoming FAO should contact the resident FAO for recommended items to bring as accompanied and unaccompanied baggage. Be aware that Ethiopian Customs Authority will not release HHG to FAO until the FAO is physically in country and the embassy (GSO) obtains a duty-free card. This process can take up to a month following arrival in country. The Community Liaison Office at the embassy has a welcome kit with vital kitchen and household items that the FAO can borrow until HHG arrive.

c. Housing: FAO leased quarters: The FAO lives in leased quarters, the size of which depends on the officer's marital status and number of dependents. Gardener, maid, nanny or other domestic help is available at the FAO's expense. The Government covers rental costs, so FAOs do not receive OHA/BAQ. The current FAO residence has 4 bedrooms, 2 ½ bathrooms with an office, backyard, and parking space for up to 4 vehicles. The embassy also provides 24-hour guard service for the residence.

d. Support Facilities:

(1) Medical: The Embassy Health Unit, headed by a doctor, can handle all minor illnesses, first aid, and administer vaccinations. Non-life threatening emergencies (broken bones etc.) are referred to a local clinic. Minor dental work performed by local dentist. All dental work should be completed prior to arrival. All vaccinations should be acquired before arrival but the EHU also has all necessary vaccinations on station.

(2) Dependent Schooling: There is an international school, which has American accreditation with grades K through 12. DOD will pay costs associated with tuition and transportation for children in kindergarten through 12th grade. The Embassy is currently running a Pre-K day care center but, again, contact the DAO prior to arrival for updated information and costs. For infant/toddler daycare, the FAO may hire at personal expense a local Ethiopian nanny. The CLO can assist in locating candidates and the cost is relatively inexpensive for full-time care (not usually more than \$60 a month at current exchange rate).

(3) PX/Commissary: The Embassy operates a small cooperative with a very limited selection of American products. Prices are high due to cost of shipping. European-style markets are available in Ethiopia offering a wide variety of products. These are also very expensive when compared to standard commissary prices. Fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, dairy products and hardware/clothing items are readily available on the economy. For specific, hard to find American food items, several Internet food services (such as Netgrocer.com) provide fast (usually arrives within a week) delivery.

(4) Recreation. The Embassy compound contains a variety of services, to include a pool, clay and hard surface tennis courts, video rental, and community club. The Marine House has a weight room and a bar. Community Liaison Office (CLO) offers information and coordinates a wide variety of activities within the local community.

e. Rater/Senior Rater:

(1) Rater – DATT

(2) Senior Rater – Chief, FAO Proponent

f. Incumbent FAO/Departure Date:

CPT Brian Jenkins 0101-0112
MAJ Patrick Anderson 0201-0301

g. Address:

(1) Mail -
USDAO Addis Ababa
Department of State Pouch Room
Washington, D.C. 20521-2030

(2) Message - USDAO ADDIS ABABA ET

h. Phone #:
US EMBASSY (251) 1-550-666 (Reception) or 552-558 (Marine
Security Guard – 24 hrs/day)
FAX (251) 1-55-10-03
DAO Addis Ababa (251) 1-55-25-58, EXT 370 OR 375
FAO Residence (251) 1-710-050

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

a. Entry requirements (NOTE: *This information is subject to change. Recommend incoming FAOs check DoD 4500.54G, Foreign Area Clearance Guide and w/sponsor NLT 90 days before PCS*). FAOs and family members require Official (maroon) passports. Visas are also required for all FAOs and family members. Health/immunization requirements: yellow fever inoculation on an international health certificate. Highly recommended are meningitis, gamma globulin, and Hepatitis “B” series. Anti-malaria treatment should be started before arrival in country. FAOs will normally attend INTAC prior to arrival on station.

b. Bring materials for completion of CGSC.

c. Bring professional books concerning training, tactical operations, staff operations, and weapons systems. Also, include French language materials.

d. Civilian clothing is standard attire for the embassy. Duty uniform at the embassy is normally coat and tie. The FAO, however, will not be required to be in coat on a daily basis, but should bring them for special occasions and social functions. A Civilian Clothing Allowance is not authorized. BDUs or Class Bs (short sleeves) are generally worn when visiting military headquarters or attending military functions. Class As and dress blues are required items. Bring all military clothing items needed.

e. FAOs are authorized a Consumable Goods Allowance IAW JTR; shipping the full allowance is highly recommended.

f. Regional Travel Priorities:

Priority 1: Ethiopia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Nigeria, Dem Rep of Congo, Kenya, Senegal, Uganda, South Africa, Rwanda.

Priority 2: Niger, Cote d' Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Cameroon, Tanzania, Angola and/or Mozambique, Botswana and/or Zimbabwe.

Priority 3: Burkina Faso, Central African Rep, Mauritania, Namibia, and Zambia.

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Approved by: COL Volk